Impact of private airlines on Indian Airlines

*676. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the market share captured by private operators operating air-taxis in the country;

(b) the impact of these private air taxi operators on Indian Airlines; and

(c) how far the Indian Airlines has geared itself to face the competition from these private operators?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) During the year 1994-95, private operators have accounted for 36.6 per cent of the total domestic traffic.

(b) The market share of Indian Airlines in the domestic traffic has come down from 99.5 per cent in 1991-92 to 63.4 per cent in 1994-95.

(c) Indian Airlines has taken the following measures to meet the challenges of competitive environment:—

(i) Improvement in passenger service both on ground and air;

(ii) Improvement in quality of food service on aircraft;

(iii) Introduction of Executive Class in A-320 aircraft;

(iv) A number of incentives/concessions introduced for customers/agents;

(v) Improvement in the Refund Rules and waiving of cancellation charges;

(vi) Setting up of sales forces to generate more business;

(vii) Tie-up with Air India in several areas;

(viii) Improved on time performance;

Holding of UTI in ITC Limited

*677. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the holding of UTI in ITC Ltd;

(b) what is the face value of equity holding of UTI in ITC Ltd; and

(c) what is the present day market value of such holding of UTI in this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) UTI has reported that it held 3.37 crore shares in ITC Ltd. as on 31-03-1995.

(b) The face value of UTI's holdings in ITC Ltd. is Rs. 33.7 crores.

(c) The market value of UTI's equity holdings was Rs. 780.08 crores as on 17-5-1995.

Financial Institutions raising liquidity by off loading equity

*678. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will constitute a high level committee to study the possibility of financial institutions raising liquidity by off loading equity;

(b) whether it is a fact that equity holdings of domestic financial institutions lock up huge volume of funds; and

(c) the steps proposed to unlock funds held in equity form by Industrial Development Bank of India and such financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that financial institntions (FIs) such as IDBI, Industrial Finaance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI) and Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI) invest in equity of industrial units as a part of their normal project financing operations. The magnitude of investment in equity of industrial units depends upon the means of finance of the project and the commercial assessment of the FIs.

(c) IDBI has further reported that FIs periodically disinvest their equity holdings in industrial concerns with a view to recycling of funds depending upon the market conditions and other related factors. FIs follow their own policies as regards disinvestment of their shareholdings in industrial concerns. It may, however, be added that Government had in May 1990 issued guidelines relatings to transaction in shares by FIs in order to make such transactions more open and transparent.

Increase in indebtedness

*679. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that indebtedness on the nations has increased @ Rs. 214 crore per day or approximately Rs. 9 crore hourly during 1993-94 as a result of which the interest payments have swallowed up almost one-third of the revenue receipts and one-fourth of the revenue expenditure of the Central Government during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the high increase in indebtedness and what steps have been taken/proposed to be taken to bring down the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): a) The total public debt and other liabilities of the Central Government have increased in 1993-94 by Rs. 77954 crore over the previous year i.e. approximately @Rs. 214 crore per day. The interest payments in that year amounted to 48.6 per cent of revenue receipts and 33.9 per cent of revenue expenditure.

(b) The main reasons for the increase were higher actual expenditure as compared to BE 1993-94 as well as shortfall in revenue and other non-debt creating capital receipts. Efforts are being made in the current year to contain the fiscal deficit through maximising revenues and limiting the expenditure to the budgeted level.

पर्यटकों से अर्जित आय

*680. श्री रामजी लाल : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार द्वारा पिछले तीन वर्षों में पर्यटकों से प्रति वर्ष अर्जित राशि का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) सरकार इसे बढ़ावा देने के लिए क्या-क्या काम उठा रही है और इस क्षेत्र में वर्ष 1992-93 की अपेक्षा इस वर्ष कितनी कमी या वृद्धि हुई है;

(ग) इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) सरकार द्वारा कुल अर्जित आय में से कितने प्रतिशत ऐतिहासिक और अन्य दर्शनीय स्थलों को पर्यटकों के लिए अधिक आकर्षक बनाने के लिए खर्च किया जा रहा है; और

(ङ) सरकार इस क्षेत्र को एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्योग का दर्जा देने के लिए क्या-क्या योजनाएं बना रही हैं ?